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EASTHAMPTSTEAD RURAL DISTRICT
COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of

THE MEDICAL
OFFICER OF HEALTH

for

1968

MEMBERS OF THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

(as at 31st December, 1968)

Chairman of the Council: Councillor Mrs. K. Dancy, J.P.

Vice-Chairman of the Council: Councillor Miss E.M. Frodsham

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STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

(as at 31st December, 1968)

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

David S. Pickup, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

R.H. Hebbbron, Cert. S.I.E.J.B., R.S.H. Cert. Meat and Foods

DEPUTY CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

D.L. Wilkinson, Cert. S.I.E.J.B., R.S.H. Cert. Meat and Foods
Cert. Building Inspector. Dip. Sanitary Engineering

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS

E.P. James, Cert. S.I.E.J.B., R.S.H. Cert. Meat and Foods
G.A. Evans, P.H.I. Dip. (Left 10 March 1968)
M.J. Gaffey, P.H.I. Cert., R.S.H. Cert. Meat and Foods
(Commenced 5 February 1968)
D. Roe, P.H.I. Dip. (Commenced 3 September 1968)

STUDENT PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

R.G. Clarke

PESTS OFFICERS

A.E. Day
W.J. Tagg

CLERICAL STAFF

N.C. Bellamy	Senior Clerk
Mrs. W.I. Arthur	Secretary to Medical Officer of Health
Miss E.J. Sherman	Clerk

EASTHAMPSTEAD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
EASTHAMPSTEAD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my second Annual Report on the State of the Public Health of the Easthampstead Rural District for the year ending 31st December, 1968.

The year under review saw the celebration of the twentieth anniversary of the National Health Service and the year was punctuated by a series of Reports, viz, the Todd Report of the Royal Commission on Medical Education, the Green Paper on the Administrative Structure of The National Health Service and the Seebohm Report on the Local Authority and Allied Social Services.

The Todd Report on Medical Education has had a good reception and the implementation of its recommendations will affect the future of the medical profession for the rest of this century. Although the Green Paper had a mixed reception, its main proposal, that the National Health Service should be united has, in the main, been accepted and we are, at present, waiting a revised version.

The Seebohm Report also had a mixed reception, its main recommendation is the setting up as a single unit, a Social Services Department with an organisational head to be equivalent in status to other Chief Officers. The purpose apparently being to provide a satisfactory career structure for Social Workers. There is little evidence available, in my opinion, that the public will reap any great benefit from such a change.

We are, at the time of writing, waiting the delayed but vitally important publication of the Redcliffe-Maude Report of the Royal Commission on Local Government.

In my own view, the future of the Medical Officer of Health lies outside the present structure of Local Government but it is essential there remains statutory connections between Local Authorities and the new Area Board so that the Local Authority may receive the vitally important medical advice required in the day to day running of its environmental and social services. The area health authority would administer a unified health service whose boundaries are coterminous with those of local authorities. If, as part of the price of this re-organisation, the hallowed name of Medical Officer of Health has to disappear then so be it. No doubt as Community Physician he will continue to maintain preventive vigilance on the health of the public in his area, "a rose by any other name".

To return to my brief, the health of the Easthampstead Rural District, we can say at once that during 1968 this has remained satisfactory and there have been no serious epidemics. The vital statistics on which this information is based are contained in the body of my Report and need not be elaborated here. However, it must be emphasised that vital statistics relating to births and deaths are only part of the total picture of the health of a community. A much more complete picture will be obtained when it is possible to bring together morbidity rates, which relate to the incidence of any particular illness effecting the health and happiness of the community. At the present time these are not available in sufficiently accurate form to have statistical validity, as data obtained from hospitals do not necessarily relate to any single local authority, population, or area.

The estimated population of the District, according to the Registrar General, is 60,180 an increase of over four thousand of which three thousand represents the increase in the population of the New Town.

From 24th - 28th June we held a Clean Food Campaign featuring an Exhibition at the Health Department together with a daily film show given by two Public Health Inspectors. In addition to these the Health Visitors organised Exhibitions at the Child Welfare Centres and the County Library distributed Book Marks containing the pertinent facts relating to clean food and health. This was a most successful campaign and a good example of the close co-operation which exists between this department and the County Council's Health Education Officer and Health Visitors to whom I extend my thanks for all the hard work they put in.

I would like to thank Mr. Charlesworth, Engineer and Surveyor, and Mr. Crowe, Housing Manager, who have contributed sections to this Report and also the County Medical Officer for supplying information relating to County Council services in the District. My thanks are also due to Mr. Hebborn, the Public Health Inspectors and the staff of the Health Department for their efficiency and enthusiasm.

I am, Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

David S. Pickup

Medical Officer of Health

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE AREA

The Easthampstead Rural District is an area of 27,610 acres in South East Berkshire. The District is irregular in outline with all the boundaries being artificial except the extreme south-west which is marked by the Blackwater River. The general configuration of the ground is undulating, the highest point being Caesars Camp (416 ft.).

Geologically the area can be divided into two very different parts. The northern part of the District is mostly on London clay while the southern part lies on the Bagshot Sands. This difference in the nature of the soil gives very different characteristics to the two halves of the District; the northern parishes of Binfield, Warfield and part of Winkfield being rich agricultural land while the southern parishes of Sandhurst, Crowthorne and parts of Easthampstead and Winkfield are covered with pine woods and heath.

The New Town of Bracknell is situated roughly in the centre of the District and includes parts of the old parishes of Warfield, Winkfield, Binfield and Easthampstead; the Designated Area is 3,286 acres.

STATISTICS

Area	27,610 acres	
	<u>1968</u>	<u>1969</u>
No. of habitable houses as at 31st March, 1969	16,158	16,704
Rateable Value as at 1st April, 1969	£2,724,769	£2,912,222
Product of Penny Rate for the year ended 31st March, 1969	£11,824	£12,547
	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>
Population (mid-year estimate)	56,070	60,180

<u>VITAL STATISTICS</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>
<u>Deaths</u>		
Total No. of Deaths	395	396
Death Rate per 1,000 population	7.0	6.6
Corrected Death Rate per 1,000 population	10.08	9.8
England and Wales Death Rate per 1,000 population	11.2	11.9
<u>Live Births</u>		
No. of legitimate live births	1,002	979
No. of illegitimate live births	62	62
	<u>1,064</u>	<u>1,041</u>
Birth Rate per 1,000 population	19.0	17.3
Corrected Birth Rate	15.7	14.2
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total Live Births	5.8%	5.9%
England and Wales Birth Rate per 1,000 population	17.2	16.9
<u>Stillbirths</u>		
No. of Stillbirths	12	8
Rate per 1,000 Live and Stillbirths	11.0	7.6
Total Live and Stillbirths	1,076	1,049
England and Wales Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 Live and Stillbirths	14.8	14.0
<u>Infant Deaths</u>		
Number of deaths under 1 year	14	20
<u>Infant Mortality Rates</u>		
Total Infant Deaths per 1,000 Live Births .	13.0	19.2
Legitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births	11.9	18.1
Illegitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births	32.2	32.2
England and Wales Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Total Live Births	18.3	18.0

	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>
<u>Neonatal Mortality Rate</u>		
Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks per 1,000		
Live Births	9.4	13.4
Total Infant Deaths under 4 weeks of age ..	10	14
England and Wales Neonatal Mortality Rate .	12.5	12.4
<u>Early Neonatal Mortality Rate</u>		
Deaths of Infants under 1 week per 1,000		
Live Births	6.5	12.5
Total Infant Deaths under 1 week	7	13
England and Wales Early Neonatal Mortality Rate	10.8	10.5
<u>Perinatal Mortality Rate</u>		
Stillbirths and Deaths under 1 week per 1,000		
Live and Stillbirths	17.8	20.0
England and Wales Perinatal Mortality Rate	25.4	25.0
<u>Maternal Deaths</u>		
Number of Maternal Deaths	1	Nil

Causes of Death in the Easthampstead Rural District

Due to a change in the classification of causes of death made by the Registrar General it is not possible to compare directly the 1967 and 1968 data. For this year only I am therefore listing both the 1967 and 1968 causes of death.

Causes of Death	Males 1967	Females 1967	Total 1967
All Causes	202	193	395
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	-	1
2. Tuberculosis, other	1	-	1
3. Syphilitic disease	-	-	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8. Measles	1	-	1
9. Other Infective and parasitic diseases	1	-	1
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	5	9	14
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	19	9	28
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	7	7
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	2	2
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	27	16	43
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	1	1
16. Diabetes	1	1	2
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	12	26	38
18. Coronary disease, angina	43	37	80
19. Hypertension with heart disease	-	3	3
20. Other heart disease	20	20	40
21. Other circulatory disease	5	15	20
22. Influenza	-	-	-
23. Pneumonia	10	7	17
24. Bronchitis	15	4	19
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	6	4	10
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	-	-
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	1	1
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	-	2	2
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	1	1
31. Congenital malformations	2	1	3
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	21	18	39
33. Motor vehicle accidents	4	1	5
34. All other accidents	2	6	8
35. Suicide	4	1	5
36. Homicide and operations of war	2	1	3

Causes of Death	Males 1968	Females 1968	Total
All Causes	197	199	396
Enteritis and other Diarrhoeal Diseases	1	-	1
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	1	-	1
Other Tuberculosis, including late effects	1	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach	5	5	10
Malignant Neoplasm - Lung, Bronchus	23	5	28
Malignant Neoplasm - Breast	-	13	13
Malignant Neoplasm - Uterus	-	5	5
Leukaemia	-	2	2
Other Malignant Neoplasms etc.	23	20	43
Benign and unspecified Neoplasms	1	-	1
Diabetes Mellitus	1	1	2
Other Endocrine etc. Diseases	-	1	1
Anaemias	-	1	1
Other Diseases of Nervous System etc.	4	1	5
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	3	1	4
Hypertensive Disease	3	3	6
Ischaemic Heart Disease	39	39	78
Other Forms of Heart Disease	14	22	36
Cerebrovascular Disease	14	28	42
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	6	5	11
Influenza	1	1	2
Pneumonia	15	14	29
Bronchitis and Emphysema	13	3	16
Asthma	-	1	1
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	7	3	10
Peptic Ulcer	-	1	1
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	1	1	2
Cirrhosis of Liver	1	-	1
Other Diseases of Digestive System	1	1	2
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	-	1
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	1	1	2
Diseases of Skin, Subcutaneous Tissue	-	1	1
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	-	2	2
Congenital Anomalies	2	6	8
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	2	2	4
Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	3	3	6
Symptoms and Ill-Defined Conditions	2	1	3
Motor Vehicle Accidents	-	1	1
All Other Accidents	4	3	7
Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries	3	1	4
All Other External Causes	1	1	2

COMMENT ON STATISTICS

Population

The natural increase in population, i.e. the excess of births over deaths was 645, the Registrar General's estimated mid-year population is 4,110 greater than the previous year, there was, therefore, an increase due to migration into the Rural District of 3,465 compared with 391 in 1967. An expected increase which I predicted in my Report last year. I expect a similar increase for 1969.

Year	Population		Year	Population	
	Designated Area	E.R.D. including New Town		Designated Area	E.R.D. including New Town
1901	Census	15,757	1958	16,000	37,830
1911	Census	17,530	1959	18,000	39,880
1921	Census	18,751	1960	19,500	41,840
1931	Census	18,010	1961	21,250	45,170
1951	5,250	24,790	1962	22,250	47,500
1952	5,750	25,620	1963	23,500	49,050
1953	6,250	26,710	1964	25,400	51,210
1954	8,000	28,190	1965	26,200	53,750
1955	9,500	30,230	1966	26,584	55,010
1956	11,250	32,390	1967	27,500	56,070
1957	13,250	34,730	1968	31,000	60,180

Births

There were 1,041 births in the Rural District in 1968. This gives a crude birth rate of 17.3 per 1,000 population and a corrected birth rate of 14.2. The Registrar General's comparability factor being 0.82.

Year	Birth Rate E.R.D.	Birth Rate E. & W.
1956	17.9	15.7
1957	17.7	16.1
1958	20.7	16.4
1959	21.2	16.5
1960	21.2	17.1
1961	19.9	17.4
1962	19.2	18.0
1963	18.8	18.2
1964	18.1	18.4
1965	17.8	18.1
1966	16.4	17.7
1967	15.7	17.2
1968	14.2	16.9

The fall in the birth rate has continued and we are again below the national average. It has been suggested that the low birth rate is due to the fact that the development of residential areas in the New Town occurs in stages and that the present developed areas of Priestwood, Bullbrook and Harmans Water are settled and we are still awaiting the influx of population into Wildridings and Great Hollands. During 1968 settlement of Wildridings was virtually completed and at the time of writing, settlement of Great Hollands is well under way. We may, therefore, expect an upward change in our birth rate in the next few years and indeed there are tentative signs that this is already occurring.

Deaths

The total number of deaths in the Rural District was 396, an increase of 1 on the previous year. The crude death rate is 6.6 per thousand and the corrected death rate is 9.8 per thousand, the area comparability factor being 1.44. These figures are below the national average of 11.9 per thousand.

The number of deaths due to Lung Cancer was 28 the same as in 1967. Deaths from Coronary Heart Disease numbered 78, two less than in 1967. Coronary Heart Disease still remains the biggest single cause of death.

MORTUARY

The Mortuary at the rear of the Council Offices continues to serve a wide area. Post Mortems are undertaken by the Coroner's Pathologist.

Number of bodies stored	:	61
Number of Post Mortems	:	50
Average length of storage:		5 days

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Notifiable Diseases (Other than Tuberculosis)

Regulations made under the Health Services and Public Health Act, 1968, made the following diseases no longer notifiable from 1st October, 1968:-

Acute Influenzal pneumonia
Acute Primary Pneumonia
Acute Rheumatism
Erysipelas
Membranous Croup
Puerperal Pyrexia

The reasoning behind this change is that these diseases are no longer considered to have any great public health significance. On the other hand, Infective Jaundice (Infectious Hepatitis) became notifiable from 15th June, 1968. This is to enable data to be collected on the epidemiology of this condition so that prevention and control may be further considered in the future.

Scarlet Fever	26
Whooping Cough	21
Measles	57
Dysentery	17
Meningococcal Infection	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	
(a) Paralytic	-
(b) Non-Paralytic	-
Diphtheria	-
Acute Pneumonia	-
Acute Encephalitis	
(a) Infective	-
(b) Post Infectious	-
Typhoid Fever	-
Paratyphoid Fever	-
Erysipelas	2
Food Poisoning	4
Smallpox	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-
Anthrax	-
Malaria	-
Infective Jaundice	5

Measles

Year	Notifications Received
1958	94
1959	1,615
1960	16
1961	1,764
1962	359
1963	1,034
1964	304
1965	881
1966	789
1967	985
1968	57

Although 1968/69 was expected to be an epidemic year of Measles, the numbers so far notified, i.e. 57, show a very large decrease from the expected numbers. Vaccination against Measles commenced in July, 1968, and by the end of the year 2,095 doses had been given. This figure shows the effectiveness of vaccination against this disease.

Tuberculosis

The Tuberculosis Register was rewritten in November, 1968, and has been largely brought up to date. The present figures give a much more realistic picture of the true state of Tuberculosis in the Community.

Notifications of Tuberculosis

Age Groups	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-
1 year	-	-	-	-
2 - 4 years	-	-	-	-
5 - 9 years	-	-	-	-
10 - 14 years	-	-	-	-
15 - 19 years	-	-	-	-
20 - 24 years	-	-	-	-
25 - 34 years	-	-	-	1
35 - 44 years	-	-	-	-
45 - 54 years	-	-	-	-
55 - 64 years	1	-	-	1
65 - 74 years	-	-	-	-
75 and over	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	1	-	-	2

The number on the Register at 31st December, 1968 was as follows:-

	<u>Pulmonary</u>	<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>
Males	79	4
Females	50	9

IMMUNISATION

Immunisation is performed by General Practitioners on behalf of the Local Health Authority and also by Medical staff of the County Council at Child Health Clinics. I am indebted to the County Medical Officer of Health for the figures in the Tables.

The following immunisations were carried out during the year:-

Triple (Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus)

	<u>Primary</u>	<u>Booster</u>
Under 1 year	673	-
1 year	174	471
2 years	33	618
3 years	31	37
4 - 7 years	58	19
8 - 16 years	47	16

Diphtheria/Tetanus

Under 1 year	-	-
1 year	34	-
2 years	14	6
3 years	22	21
4 - 7 years	121	871
8 - 16 years	8	147

Diphtheria

Under 1 year	12	-
1 year	-	-
2 years	-	-
3 years	-	5
4 - 7 years	-	2
8 - 16 years	-	-

Poliomyelitis

All ages	1,321	-
18 months	-	981
5 years	-	922
Over 5 years	-	40

Smallpox

The following children and adults were vaccinated against Smallpox during 1968:-

	<u>Primary</u>	<u>Revaccination</u>
9 - 12 months	27	-
1 year	838	-
2 - 4 years	133	-
5 - 15 years	12	360
Over 15 years	, -	93

B.C.G.

B.C.G. vaccination against Tuberculosis is offered (with parents consent) to all children at ages 12 - 14 years who, following a skin test, show that they may be susceptible to this infection.

<u>School</u>	<u>Skin Test</u>	<u>Vaccination</u>
Ranelagh School, Bracknell	60	52
Borough Green County Secondary, Bracknell	58	55
Wick Hill County Secondary, Bracknell	113	92
Edgebarrow County Secondary, Crowthorne	103	84
Garth School, Bracknell	97	90
Braybrook School, Bracknell	26	24
Coopers Hill Training Centre, Bracknell	10	8

MEALS ON WHEELS

A total of 8,188 Meals was served in 1967. The number of Meals served in 1968 was 9,253, an increase of 1,065. At the time of writing, the figures for the current year are showing a further increase. These figures are very pleasing and show that the Meals on Wheels Service is providing a useful and increasing need to the community. I would like to thank Mrs. Best, B.E.M., Centre Organiser of the Women's Royal Voluntary Service for the above information.

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Meals Served</u>
Bracknell	3,856
Binfield	714
Winkfield	1,430
Warfield	212
Crowthorne	1,688
Sandhurst	1,353

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

WATER SUPPLY

The water supply of the area has been satisfactory in quality and quantity generally throughout the area. Piped water supply is available in every parish and is supplied as follows:-

Parish of Winkfield	The South West Suburban Water Co. The Causeway, Staines.
Parishes of Bracknell, Crowthorne, Sandhurst, Easthampstead, Binfield and Warfield	The Mid-Wessex Water Co., Frimley Green, Aldershot.

During the year twelve samples of drinking water were taken as follows:-

<u>Bacteriological</u>	<u>No. of Samples</u>	<u>Result</u>
Mains Water, Bracknell	2	Satisfactory
Mains Water, Crowthorne	3	Satisfactory
Mains Water, Sandhurst	1	Satisfactory
Mains Water, Winkfield	1	Satisfactory
Well Water, Winkfield	4	Mostly unsatisfactory

Chemical

Mains Water, Bracknell	1	Satisfactory
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The Well water samples related to a Well at Ascot where the owner was anxious to find out if the water was wholesome. In view of the bad samples, however, he was advised to connect the house to the public main and, in the meantime, to boil all water used for drinking. The house is now unoccupied.

FLUORINE CONTENT OF WATER

The parish of Winkfield derives its supply from the South West Suburban Water Company whose water has a fluorine content of less than 0.1 parts per million - an insignificant quantity, as would be anticipated from a river source. The average fluoride content of the water in supply was 0.18 parts per million in 1968. The maximum recorded was 0.31 parts per million and the minimum 0.08 parts per million.

The remainder of the Rural District derives its supply from the Mid-Wessex Water Company. Prior to 1950, this water had a high fluorine content naturally occurring of 1.4 parts per million. From 1950 to 1958 due to increased demands supplementary water of a low fluorine content (0.1 - 0.25 parts per million) had been added affecting mainly the parishes of Sandhurst, Crowthorne and parts of Easthampstead, thus reducing the fluorine content in these areas to a level of 0.6 - 0.9 parts per million; Warfield, Binfield and Bracknell remaining unaffected. From 1958 additional low fluorine water has further reduced the levels to 0.4 to 0.7 parts per million in the southern area and 0.7 to 0.9 parts per million in the northern area.

The present position is that water of high fluoride content is confined to the west and north-western part of the Water Company's area, whilst water of low fluoride content is to be found elsewhere, including this Council's area. This has come about because the supplementary water now exceeds the output of the local source by a considerable amount. The Ministry of Health recommends a fluorine content of 1.0 parts per million.

PLUMBO SOLVENT

The water supplied in this District is not liable to have plumbo solvency action.

STAND PIPES

There are no houses in the Rural District supplied by means of stand pipes.

SWIMMING POOLS

There is a Council owned Swimming Pool open for public use and various pools belonging to schools in the District.

During the year nine samples were taken as follows:-

Bracknell Pool	-	3 samples
Harmans Water School, Bracknell	-	1 sample
Cranbourne School, Winkfield	-	1 sample
Heatherdown School, Ascot	-	1 sample
Ranelagh School, Bracknell	-	1 sample
Winkfield Place, Winkfield	-	2 samples

All but one of the above samples was satisfactory. Where unsatisfactory, the water contained a profuse algal growth and advice was given on curing this.

MAIN DRAINAGE

The arrangements for sewerage and sewage disposal in the District are good, and reference should be made to the Report of the Engineer and Surveyor on this subject.

SURFACE WATER FLOODING

During the year several instances of flooding with surface water from watercourses occurred - serious to those affected. The two worst occurrences were in July and September, following very heavy rainfall, most notably affecting College Town and Sandhurst. Conditions in Sandhurst could be compared with those in October, 1956.

Two special meetings of the Council were convened and a special meeting was held with representatives of the Conservators of the River Thames, who have an overall responsibility for surface water drainage in their catchment area.

After careful observations during and after these floods it was apparent that urgent action would have to be taken with regard to culverts which were not capable of taking these storm flows. Co-operation between the three Authorities - Berkshire County Council for Highways; Easthampstead Rural District Council for general sewerage and Conservators, River Thames as River Board is essential in action to improve culverts, to provide more sewers and improve the capacity of the River Blackwater. The long term solution is in a comprehensive Sandhurst Surface Water Drainage Scheme which was submitted to the Ministry by the Engineer and Surveyor during the year.

POLLUTION OF WATER COURSES AND STREAMS

The Thames Conservancy Board is the authority primarily concerned with pollution of water courses, rivers and streams in this District. They take frequent samples from water courses and set the standards that they require of sewage works effluents. These standards vary for different Works.

Details of samples taken by this Department were as follows:-

Chemical

Winkfield	3 samples Stream Water 2 samples Pond Water
Binfield	2 samples Oil from Ditch 4 samples from Ditch
Bracknell	4 samples Ditch Water
Warfield	1 sample Ditch Water

Following a complaint of dead fish in an ornamental pond, samples were taken as follows:-

- (a) Chemical Analysis for possible sewage contamination;
- (b) Chemical Analysis for other poisonous substances.

Both samples were negative in that there was no poisonous metals, cyanide, detergent or insecticide. There seemed to be no apparent chemical reason for the death of the fish.

PUBLIC CLEANSING SERVICES

Reference to refuse collection and disposal and the Cespool Emptying Service will be found in the Report of the Engineer and Surveyor.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS BY DISTRICT INSPECTORS

PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS

Complaints	280
Visits and Revisits	1,312
Work in progress	82
Moveable Dwellings	231
Water Supplies	21
Infectious Diseases	117
Land Charges (Searches)	467
Markets	25
Interviews, Builders, etc.	133
Miscellaneous	319

HOUSING ACTS

Housing Inspections	98
Improvement Grants and Loans	29

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT

Food Shops	266
Ice Cream Premises	73
Dairies	28
Butchers' Premises	169
Cafes, Restaurants, etc.	82

FACTORY ACTS

Inspections (including Bakehouses)	69
------------------------------------	----

MISCELLANEOUS

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	327
Petroleum Acts	21
Clean Air	30
Miscellaneous	319

NOTICES SERVED

Statute	Preliminary Notices	Statutory Notices	Court Proceedings
Public Health Acts	111	11	-
Food and Drugs Act	9	-	3
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	9	-	-
Other Acts	11	-	-

HOUSING ACT, 1957

During the year twelve houses were represented by the Medical Officer of Health as being unfit for human habitation and Demolition Orders were made in four cases; Closing Orders in four; Undertaking for one and three were deferred. Four families were rehoused by the Council; two by the Bracknell Development Corporation and three families found their own accommodation, from houses previously dealt with under this Act.

HOUSING ACT, 1964

Representations were received on 7th November, 1967, under Section 19 from a tenant that the property, which was not in an Improvement area, is without one or more of the standard amenities as follows:-

- (a) fixed bath in bathroom;
- (b) a wash hand basin in bathroom;
- (c) a hot and cold water supply at wash hand basin;
- (d) a hot and cold water supply at fixed bath;
- (e) a water closet in bathroom.

~~The~~ Owner had not complied after an informal approach, so after following the procedure laid down an order was made under this Section requiring the owner to carry out the work within twelve months.

RENT ACT, 1957

During the year one application for cancellation of a Certificate of Disrepair was received, and this was done.

CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960

Two hundred and thirty one visits were made to caravans and caravan sites during the year. The number of site licences are as follows:-

Site licences operating as at 31st December, 1968:-

	<u>Privately Owned Sites</u>	
	<u>Residential</u>	<u>Holiday</u>
(a) Individual	19	-
(b) Multiple (more than three)	10	1
Total number of Caravans	602	120

GYPSIES AND CARAVAN DWELLERS OF NO FIXED ABODE

A meeting of representatives of local Councils was held early in the year to discuss the problems involved in providing a Gypsy Caravan Site, and in May a visit was made to such a site at West Malling, Kent. An approach was made to the County Council in June for financial assistance in the setting up of such a Camp, but owing to uncertainty created by a Private Members Bill which would place a financial responsibility for gypsy caravan sites on County Councils, the matter was deferred. In the meantime, the Council obtained planning consent for a site for twelve gypsy caravans on land to the east of Old Wokingham Road, Easthampstead, but this could not be proceeded with quickly as the owner was not willing to sell. However, although the Caravan Sites Act, 1968, received the Royal Assent during the year, Part II relating to the provision of sites by local authorities was not brought into operation. Further discussion took place with Cookham Rural District Council with regard to the possibility of a caravan site being provided jointly by the two authorities, but this was delayed as the County Council's policy on the provision of Gypsy Caravan Sites had still to be settled at the end of the year.

It is noteworthy that in the early part of 1969 the County Council took much more active steps to deal with this problem and have advised all District Councils of a scheme for appraising, acquiring, financing and operating gypsy caravan sites. This scheme on first reading, appears to be both sensible of the needs of gypsies and generous to the District Councils.

Fourteen visits were made to gypsies and itinerants during the year.

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1960

Type of Premises	Number	Number fitted to comply with Regulation 16 (Wash Hand Basin)	Number to which Regulation 19 applies	Number fitted to comply with Regulation 19 (Sinks)
Bakehouses	6	6	6	6
Cafes and Restaurants	23	23	23	23
Food Shops	140	127	70	70
Licensed Premises	63	63	63	55
Butchers' Shops	27	27	27	27
Fried Fish Shops	7	7	7	7
TOTAL	266	253	196	188

A case against an Ice Cream Company in Bracknell was taken in February, 1968, on four charges under the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations. The Company were fined a total of £80 and ordered to pay an Advocate's fee of £15 15s. -d.

The Chairman of the Bench said that they thought this was a serious case, and they were not satisfied with the explanation given by the Defendant's Advocate for the delay in doing something constructive about the deficiencies from 1965 when the matter was first raised.

CLEAN FOOD AND THE CITIZEN

A Clean Food Week was organised and held from 24th to 28th June. The campaign was centred round a Handbook bearing the above title and prepared to our specifications by Messrs. Malcolm Page Ltd., Streatham Hill, London, S.W.2. Two main classes of food handlers were aimed at (1) The Young Housewife and Mother - through the Clinics and (2) Employees in food shops, works canteens and school canteens.

The response from shops, canteens, etc., was very encouraging and eighty-six employees attended a lecture session and film shows, repeated each afternoon, and a small exhibition.

We are sufficiently satisfied with this first attempt at Health Education to plan a wider and more detailed campaign in future.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

Three cases under Section 2 were taken during the year as follows:-

1. Sale of a mouldy sliced loaf. Fined £10 10s.-d. with £10 10s.-d. Advocates Fee.
2. Sale of a loaf containing a metal foreign body. Fined £10 10s.-d. with £5 5s.-d. towards Legal Costs.
3. Sale of a mouldy pork pie. Fined £10 10s.-d. with £5 5s.-d. Advocates Fee.

In addition thirty-one other cases of complaints about food were dealt with during the year - the main cause of complaint being mould and foreign matter in food. Most of these were taken up with the vendors or manufacturers and warning letters sent in appropriate cases. In some cases the complaint could not be substantiated or too long a period had elapsed before bringing the matter to our notice.

MILK AND DAIRIES

Samples taken (Milk in course of distribution to Consumers)

Particulars	No. of Samples	METHYLENE BLUE		PHOSPHATASE	
		Satis.	Unsatis.	Satis.	Unsatis.
Plant in Council's area	1	1	-	1	-
Plant not in Council's area	-	-	-	-	-

Samples taken by the Berkshire County Council from pasteurising plant either situated in the Easthampstead Rural District or outside the District but from which milk is retailed in this area:-

Particulars	No. of Samples	METHYLENE BLUE		PHOSPHATASE	
		Satis.	Unsatis.	Satis.	Unsatis.
Pasteurisers in Council's area	52	52	-	52	-
Pasteurisers in other District (milk sold in Council's area)	60	60	-	60	-

GAME LICENCES

Eight shopkeepers are registered to deal in game under the Game Act, 1831.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1958

Three slaughtermen resident in this District are licensed to operate.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS) ORDER, 1957

The number of persons holding licences in this District is as follows:-

- | | |
|--|---|
| (a) The Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Order 1957 | 5 |
| (b) The Diseases of Animals (Licensing of Waste Food Sterilisation Plant) Order 1954 | 4 |

Two were removed, and one was registered under (b) during the year. Inspections were made during the year, and the condition of plant and premises was satisfactory in all but one case. The functions under this Order are delegated from the County Council.

LIQUID EGG (PASTEURISATION) REGULATIONS, 1960

There are no egg pasteurisation premises in this District.

POULTRY INSPECTION

There are no poultry processing premises within the District.

MEAT INSPECTION

The one Slaughterhouse in this District was closed on 1st July, 1966.

UN SOUND FOOD SURRENDERED

The following, after being examined and found unfit for human consumption, were voluntarily surrendered to the Department for disposal and destroyed by burning or burying in the appropriate manner:-

	<u>Tons</u>	<u>Cwts.</u>	<u>lbs.</u>
<u>MEAT:</u> Meat at retail shops	-	3	2
Cooked meat and meat products	-	-	39
Canned Meats	-	5	-
Other Canned Foods	2	14	68
Fish (fresh)	-	-	56
Other Foods (frozen)	-	1	56
	3	4	109

PETROLEUM ACTS, 1928 AND 1936

There are sixty-six premises licensed for the storage of petroleum spirit in the area, the total amount licensed being 256,785 gallons. The licence fees were increased during the year.

A new Model Code of Principles of Constructions and Licensing Conditions for the storage of Cans, Drums and Other Receptacles, Petrol Filling Stations, Distributing Depots and Major Installations was issued by the Home Office during the year and adopted by the Council.

The Council also joined The Association for Petroleum Acts Administration, an organisation who meet regularly to discuss problems connected with the administration of the Petroleum Acts.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no registered Common Lodging Houses within the area of the Council.

BERKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL ACT, 1953

Section 74/75. Licensing under these sections relates to all Public Halls and other Halls and premises used for Public Performances or Dances. The premises are inspected for safety precautions and, as a result of these inspections, licenses are issued subject to conditions of safety.

Section 122. Twenty-eight persons trading as Hawkers of Food and five premises are registered under this Section. During the year the Company, premises and salesmen of Messrs. Tonibell Ltd. were registered. This Company produces ice cream at a central factory at Boreham Wood, distributes it in bulk to depots such as that in Bracknell and it is sold from mobile shops with mechanical freezers in each one.

Section 129. The Council has adopted Byelaws regulating the hygienic conditions of premises and persons carrying on the trade of Hairdresser and Barber. Thirty-six are registered by the Council under this Section and thirty visits were made during the year.

THEATRES ACT, 1834, AND CINEMATOGRAPH ACTS, 1909 AND 1952

The system of licensing is to control safety requirements relative to seating, fire precautions, exits, stage equipment and the like. Licences for the performance of stage plays are issued, subject to safety conditions, on an occasional basis, valid for one month. The one Cinema in Bracknell is licensed under the Cinematograph Acts; there is also a Mobile Cinerama Theatre licensed, based at Ascot, but which visits various towns throughout the country during the holiday season.

PRIVATE PLACES OF ENTERTAINMENT (LICENSING) ACT, 1967

No such places were established during 1968.

PET ANIMALS

Five licences to keep Pet Shops were renewed during the year, these are periodically inspected.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963

This Act provides for the licensing and inspection of Boarding Establishments for animals (cats and dogs). Eight establishments were licensed during the year and are periodically inspected.

SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT, 1964

From 1st July, 1965, no person may carry on business as a Scrap Metal Dealer unless he is registered by the Council. Scrap Dealers who occupy a scrap metal store in the Council's area, or have their place of residence in the area, or occupy a place in the area wholly or partly for the purposes of their business, must apply for registration. Twelve dealers were registered in 1968. The registrations are for a period of three years.

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

The first Smoke Control Area covering 1,100 houses in the Priestwood area of Bracknell was submitted to the Ministry, but no operative date had been notified up to the end of 1968, although it is expected to come into operation in 1969. Twenty-six visits were made during 1968 but it was anticipated that the number of visits necessary would be much greater in 1969.

NOISE

Fourteen complaints of noise were received during the year of which four were confirmed and remedied informally. The most common causes of complaint were noises from factory premises and from barking dogs. One complaint received was of noise from the use of a helicopter at the R.A.F. Staff College which is, of course, exempt from the Noise Abatement Act, 1960, but, in any case, this complaint could not be substantiated.

PEST CONTROL

This work is carried out by two whole time Pests Officers, Mr. A.E. Day and Mr. W. Tagg. During the twelve months ended 31st December, 1968, the following work was carried out under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949:-

	<u>Premises including Business Premises</u>	<u>Agricultural Premises</u>
Number of properties in the District	15,615	224
Number of premises inspected as a result of notification	590	22
Number of properties inspected which were found to be infested by:-		
(a) Rats	497	22
(b) Mice	93	7
No sewers were infested by Rats during the year.	Sewer treatment carried out in 34 manholes in Binfield.	

In addition the Pests Officers dealt with the following:-

Wasps Nests	136 (destroyed)
Swarms of Bees	27 (not destroyed)
Cockroaches	12
Ants	99
Fleas and Bugs	10 fumigations
Squirrels in Roofs	17
Mosquitoes	7
Rabbits	5
Bluebottles and Cluster Fly	7

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

(A) REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

	No. of Premises Registered during the year	Total Number of Registered Premises at end of year	Registered Premises requiring a general inspection during the year
Offices	24	148	56
Retail Shops	34	222	23
Wholesale Shops	4	13	1
Catering Establishments	6	39	2
Fuel Storage Depots	1	7	-
TOTAL	69	429	81
TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITS OF ALL KINDS BY INSPECTORS TO REGISTERED PREMISES UNDER THE ACT			327

(B) ANALYSIS OF CONTRAVENTION

<u>Section</u>	<u>Number of Contraventions Found</u>
6	Temperature 1
8	Lighting 1
9	Sanitary Convenience 6
12	Clothing Accommodation 4
13	Sitting Facilities 2
24	First Aid 5
	Other Matters 7
	<u>26</u>

(C) REPORTED ACCIDENTS

Workplace	Number Reported Non-Fatal	Total No. Investigated	Action Recommended		No Action
			Formal Warning	Informal Advice	
Offices	2	1	-	1	1
Retail Shops	2	1	-	1	1
Wholesale Shops Warehouses	2	-	-	-	2
TOTAL	6	2	-	2	4

(D) ANALYSIS OF REPORTED ACCIDENTS

	Offices	Retail Shops	Wholesale Warehouses
Falls of persons	1	1	1
Handling Goods	-	1	-
Use of hand tools	-	-	1
Not otherwise specified	-	1	1
TOTAL	1	3	2

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1961

PART I OF THE ACT

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health

	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	8	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	137	69	3	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority (excluding Out-workers premises)	4	-	-	-
TOTAL	149	69	3	-

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of Cases in which Prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (Section 1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (Section 2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature (Section 3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (Section 4)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (Section 7)					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	1	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	1	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outworkers)	1	1	-	-	-
	3	3	1	-	-

PART VIII OF THE ACT

3. OUTWORK (Section 110 and 111)

Nature of Work	No. of Outworkers in August List required by Section 110 (1)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending Lists to the Council	No. of Prosecutions for failure to supply Lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Section 111	
					Notices Served	Prosecutions
Wearing apparel making etc.	41	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Brush Making	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTAL	42	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

R.H. HEBBRON

Chief Public Health Inspector.

REPORT OF THE ENGINEER & SURVEYOR

SEWAGE TREATMENT AND DISPOSAL

Sandhurst Sewage Treatment Works

During the course of the year, execution of the Stage 1 development of this Sewage Treatment Works was completed. Progress with the design and contract document preparation for the Stage 2 development of the works went forward more slowly than had been hoped and, as a result, it became necessary to provide additional sludge storage lagoons on the site of the works as the existing permanent and temporary sludge storage provision was no longer adequate. It is hoped that the disposal of sludge from the Sandhurst Sewage Treatment Works will be eased once the proposed sludge pressing plant is commissioned, which event it is hoped will take place before the end of 1969.

During the year under review, there was some nuisance from smell originating from the large sludge lagoons at this works and in order to reduce that nuisance so far as possible, a chemical concentrate was introduced at the inlet of raw sewage into the works. The purchase of this chemical has involved substantial expenditure that has, nevertheless, proved of value in restricting the number of occasions when a smell nuisance was caused by the sludge lagoons. It is proposed to continue the addition of this concentrate to the raw sewage until such time as the sludge presses have been brought into operation and the lagoons have been removed.

Easthampstead Park Sewage Treatment Works

Substantial completion of the Stage 2 development of the sewage treatment works has been achieved during the year under review so that the works is now generally producing a standard of effluent to the approval of the Thames Conservancy. It is expected that completion

of this stage of development will be achieved early in 1969 and that thereafter the standards of effluent quality required by the Thames Conservancy will be met as a matter of course.

Planning approval has been granted by the County Planning Authority for the provision of one pair of houses on site in order to accommodate the staff employed on maintenance and operation of this works. It is hoped that the provision of this accommodation, which will enable security of the works to be maintained, will be undertaken during the latter part of 1969 and will be preceded by the provision of the workmen's welfare, toilet and the small equipment storage facilities required in connection with the operation and management of this works.

Winkfield Sewage Treatment Works

This works has continued to be heavily overloaded throughout the past year despite the arrangement for the first part of the year whereby 50,000 gallons per day of sewage from the area was passed via the valley sewer to the Northern trunk sewer of the Bracknell Development Corporation and the subsequent increase of that diversion so that 100,000 gallons per day was diverted for treatment at the Corporation's works. It had been expected by the end of 1968 a further 220,000 gallons per day could be transferred in this way to the Northern trunk sewer, this leaving the Brockhill Bridge pumping station and Winkfield Works to deal mainly with storm flows. This latter diversion has not proved to be possible in 1968 but it is hoped that the additional flows can be diverted early in 1969.

Investigations are now proceeding to ensure the future adequacy of the Winkfield Works for storm flow treatment.

SEWERAGE

Maidens Green Sewerage Scheme, Winkfield

Execution of the construction works has been completed and existing properties able to connect to the public foul sewer had until the end of 1968 to do so, after which date the free cesspool emptying service provided by the Council ceased and individuals who have not connected their properties to the public sewer will have to make their own arrangements to have their cesspools emptied.

Murrell Hill, Binfield

Ministry loan sanction for this scheme has not been forthcoming and, accordingly, arrangements will be made in the Department for new proposals to be prepared and submitted to the Ministry for approval prior to proceeding to obtain tenders for those works.

London Road and Longhill Road Foul Sewer

Ministry loan sanction for these works has been awaited for some considerable time and as a result, I expect that it will be necessary to obtain fresh tenders before the construction operation can proceed.

Public Sewers

The Council continues to adopt foul and surface water sewers as public sewers, where these have been laid to my satisfaction to form part of the overall drainage system of the district.

Blackmoor Valley Surface Water Drainage Scheme

Surface water flooding of the Winkfield area has taken place on several occasions and on one particular occasion, a number of properties along the Blackmoor Stream were seriously affected. Both within the area of the Easthampstead R.D.C. and that of the Windsor R.D.C., the interiors of dwellings were flooded.

During the course of the year, the basic design calculations for the catchment area were completed and the proposal then submitted to the Ministry for technical approval. The Ministry indicated that an informal technical investigation of the proposals would be required but a date for those investigations has not yet been stipulated by the Ministry. In the meantime, the preparation of detailed tender drawings continues.

Crouch Lane, Winkfield Surface Water Drainage Scheme

Execution of this scheme is proceeding on site.

Binfield Surface Water Drainage Scheme

Construction is proceeding with small surface water sewerage schemes to serve areas of Binfield. These schemes should eventually form part of an overall drainage scheme for the Binfield Catchment Area.

Forest Road Surface Water Drainage Scheme

There has been surface water flooding of Forest Road, Winkfield for a number of years and a scheme to eliminate the flooding of properties in that area has been completed.

Sandhurst Surface Water Drainage Scheme

Throughout the year, there have again been a number of occasions when flooding of dwellings, properties and highways in the Sandhurst area has taken place.

In the course of the year, the Council resolved that priority was to be given to surface water sewerage design and it then became possible to complete the outline design of the surface water drainage proposals for that catchment. The proposals have been submitted to the Ministry who have indicated that an informal technical investigation of the scheme will be required but the Ministry has not yet stipulated the date for that investigation.

In order that improvement of the River Blackwater could be undertaken by the Thames Conservancy, arrangements were made during the year for lowering the rising main connecting the drainage system of the Hartley Wintney R.D.C. to the Sandhurst Sewage Treatment Works. The work of lowering the rising main has been completed and the Conservators informed accordingly and also advised that closure of the ford at the junction of Swan Lane and Darby Green Road has now been confirmed as a result of action by the Berkshire and Hampshire County Councils. The river improvement works that will benefit the Sandhurst area, can now proceed unimpeded.

Cesspool Emptying

Under the direction of the Sewage Works Manager and his staff, this service continues to be provided satisfactorily but due to loan sanction for the foul sewerage works referred to earlier in this Report, not having been received, the reduction of the demand for cesspool emptying service has not decreased to the extent that had been hoped for.

EASTHAMPSTEAD CEMETERY

This project includes for the provision of a chapel, mortuary and post mortem facilities and, ultimately, a crematorium on the site of the Easthampstead Cemetery. Planning approval of the proposals has been obtained and a start has been made on the detailed design work.

A trunk sewer extension to service this site will be required and the preliminary survey work was completed during the year so that, subject to Ministry loan sanction for those works being obtained, construction can start early in 1969.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Tipping at the Longhill Road site ceased on 17th May, 1968, and was commenced at Priors Pit in Longhill Road on 20th May. The Longhill Road site continues to be used for the temporary storage of refuse at weekends and on public holidays as a service to the public in accordance with the provisions of the Civic Amenities Act.

The refuse collection and disposal service operates under the direction of the Cleansing Superintendent who, with his staff, also undertakes the work required in connection with the disposal of old vehicles and the storage and disposal of abandoned vehicles. Operation of the statutory provisions of the Civic Amenities Act involves this section of my department in a considerable and increasing amount of work as the public become more aware of the provisions of the Civic Amenities Act.

Towards the latter part of the year, a start was made upon construction of the access road to the Longshot Lane Refuse Disposal Site. Delay in obtaining entry on to the site was occasioned due to difficulties with and changes of ownership of the site but with the co-operation of the contractor concerned, a start with construction of the access road was undertaken immediately possession was obtained.

During the year, the research was continued into the suitability of various makes of pulverising plant and tenders for the manufacture, provision and installation of approved types of installation, were obtained. The Council accepted the tender submitted by Tollemache Composting Systems Ltd. for a duplicate line plant subject to Ministry loan sanction being obtained.

It is expected that a start with construction of the pulverising plant should commence early in 1969. In the meantime, a contract for fencing the site has been let and it is expected that these works will commence shortly.

Paper Sacks

In the course of the year, over 3,000 paper sack holders for domestic refuse storage were distributed and a costing of refuse collection from the area where those sack holders have been installed was completed for comparison with the costing carried out for the area prior to the changeover to the paper sack system.

The costing investigation showed that the return paper sack refuse disposal service, including the provision of paper sack holders (equating to the provision of a municipal dustbin scheme) was limited to 3d. per container per week. In the light of that information and in the knowledge that a substantial number of the refuse containers at domestic premises throughout the district, are worn out or of an unsatisfactory type or design or material, or are otherwise unsuitable for the use to which they are put, the Council resolved to undertake the second stage of the extension of the paper sack disposal scheme.

Ministry loan sanction for the purpose of the requisite number of sack holders has been obtained.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

The construction of a public convenience at the Bagshot Road Recreational Area and at the Easthampstead Shopping Centre was completed during the year and substantial progress made with the construction of a public convenience at the Wildridings Shopping Centre. Negotiations are proceeding with the Bracknell Development Corporation for the location of public conveniences at other shopping centres in the New Town area and sites for toilets are also being sought to serve other populated areas of the district.

In the Town Centre of Bracknell, the existing public conveniences in Stanley Road will be required by the Bracknell Development Corporation during 1969 in order that Town Centre redevelopment may proceed. I am currently negotiating for a compensatory site on which replacement public conveniences could be sited and am hopeful that the negotiations can be concluded satisfactorily and that proper provision in the town centre can be secured.

HOUSING

I have to report that no new housing was completed in 1968 though design work for the second stage development of Owlsmoor and of the Prince Villa sites continued. Apart from work on these projects, substantial efforts were made to obtain Ministry approval of the proposals to develop land at Napier Road, Crowthorne but efforts to obtain Ministry approval of the proposals for that site were unsuccessful. Effort is now being concentrated on Prince Villa and Owlsmoor.

CIVIC OFFICES

The Council's Architects, Messrs. Clifford Culpin & Partners, have made good progress with the design of the first stage of the new Civic Offices and the Council has reached a number of important decisions on matters that govern the detailed design of the offices for which it is expected tenders will be invited early in 1969.

Completion of the new Civic Offices will enable the Council to vacate the present Council Offices site that is required for redevelopment by the Bracknell Development Corporation.

HIGHWAYS

Street Naming and Numbering

Street naming and numbering continues to be systematically applied to new developments and a steady programme of provision of

nameplates and the adoption of official numbering systems for those streets where there is no consistency of numbering, is being undertaken as and when more pressing work permits.

Street Lighting

Prior to the Berkshire County Council being made the Lighting Authority for the whole of the County, the Easthampstead Rural District Council was the Authority with responsibility for the greatest number of street lights in the County. The County Council have delegated their responsibility to the Easthampstead R.D.C. so far as the area of that Authority is concerned and have adopted a policy of "dusk to dawn" street lighting.

The District Council in its own right is proceeding with the provision of footway lighting schemes as and when circumstances make such provision necessary, desirable or possible.

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

Sports Centre

There continues to be considerable development of the use of the Sports Centre under the direction of the Recreational Facilities Manager.

Bracknell Development Corporation have promised a contribution of £20,000 towards the provision of four Squash courts as part of the Sports Centre complex and construction of those squash courts is proceeding. Concurrently with the development work of provision of the squash courts, work that will enable the second floor of the main hall to be brought into use is going forward as is that of enlarging the foyer and adjoining office space that will enable more adequate accommodation to be made available to the Administrative Staff of the Sports Centre. It is expected that these construction works will be completed by the end of March, 1969.

Indoor Swimming Pool

During the year a considerable amount of research and investigation into the design of swimming pools was undertaken and ultimately the Council appointed Consultant Architects (Frederick D. Williamson & Associates) for the provision on a site at the Sports Centre of a major swimming pool complex incorporating an indoor pool and separate facilities for learners and for diving. The detailed brief for the Architects is currently being prepared.

Open-Air Swimming Pool

The open-air swimming pool continues to function to meet a popular demand and on the 7th June, 1968, a pool water heating plant was put into commission so that the temperature of the pool water was raised from a level below that at which it is advisable for school swimming instruction to be undertaken, to a level materially above the minimum. Increased attendance following the installation of the pool water heating has indicated that the provision of the plant was most necessary and is much appreciated.

H. Charlesworth

Engineer and Surveyor

REPORT OF THE HOUSING MANAGER

DEVELOPMENT

Since the last Annual Report no new properties have been completed. Work will commence in 1969 on the second stage of the Owlsmoor Development and the sixty-five dwellings are due for completion in 1970.

WAITING LIST

The housing waiting list was reviewed in January, 1969, and analysis proved that there is an increase in the number of engaged and married couples in need since the last Report,

ALLOCATIONS, TRANSFERS AND EXCHANGES

Sixty applicants were nominated to the Bracknell Development Corporation during 1968. During the year forty-six allocations were made and forty transfers and exchanges of tenancy.

ACCOMMODATION FOR THE ELDERLY

Thirteen units will be provided in 1969 at the Prince Villa Stage II Development, in Little Sandhurst.

SUMMARY OF COUNCIL PROPERTIES AS AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1968

Parish	No. of Properties	Houses				Bungalows			Flats			Flat-lets
		5 Bed	4 Bed	3 Bed	2 Bed	2 Bed	1 Bed	Bed/ Recess	2 Bed	1 Bed	Bed/ Recess	
Binfield	155	-	-	80	34	18	10	3	9	1	-	-
Bracknell	405	-	-	223	33	4	-	24	57	1	27	36
Crowthorne	150	-	8	87	15	8	6	-	1	16	-	9
Sandhurst	243	-	4	117	37	8	-	-	41	20	-	16
Warfield	18	-	-	12	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-
Winkfield	283	2	12	112	81	38	24	-	14	-	-	-
TOTALS	1,254	2	24	631	200	76	46	27	122	38	27	61

SUMMARY OF HOUSING WAITING LIST AS AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1968

Present Accommodation	Engaged Couples	No Children	1 Child	2 Children		3 Children and above	Aged Persons		Total
				Same Sex	Odd Sexes		Couples	Singles	
Rooms	31	19	22	4	6	-	1	16	99
Caravans	-	26	25	6	4	8	2	6	77
Service Tenancies	-	45	44	16	33	31	6	10	185
Tenants	-	24	31	7	10	17	13	44	146
TOTALS	31	114	122	33	53	56	22	76	507

G.H. Crowe

Housing Manager

